

VHF Results

The Results for the 1987 ARRL VHF Sweepstakes are in and the HCRA has broken its all time high record! This year's score was a whopping 319,783 points. Even more notable was another record breaking all time high of 54 entries! Many thanks to all those members who assisted us in our goals — it really shows!

This was the first time that the club has placed in the Unlimited Category. We were both second place, and last place. The Mount Airy VHF Club (PA) scored over 1.5 million points with 59 entries!

Our third-of-a-million points still placed us fourth overall in all categories in the country. Its interesting to note that the other three clubs who totalled more points than we did each have VHF in their name. But the HCRA has VHF in its blood; many an old timer will tell you stories of the early days and the experimentation on these bands that occurred right here in our area. I'm sure that many of them will be glad to see that the tradition continues...

Additional congrats to the Mount Tom ARA who placed 10th in the Medium Category with 11,528 points and 12 entries. These combined scores show that although Western Massachusetts is one of the smallest ARRL sections in the country we have one of the largest turnouts for the January VHF contests. Let's keep that in mind next year as we try to shatter 1987's records. Of course we appreciate your support with the log submission, but the most important thing is that you get on and operate!

Our own KA1ZE, with 89,232 points single operator style, placed third in the country, and took the New England Division title. Congrats Stan!

The HCRA club station WINY cranked out a score of 135,786 points to take first place in the multioperator category in New England and fourth place in the country. Kudos to the WINY team of AC1T, KA1KPH, N1DPM, NC1B, NC1I, W1KK, WA1UQC, and WB1FCG.

Looking at Multipliers (grid squares worked), single op stations KA1ZE logged 20 grids on 220 MHz for a tie for second place, while K1FO managed to snag 32 grids on 432 MHz. Good job Stan and Steve!

The guys at WINY placed in the top ten multiplier leader ranks for each band they operated. They were in 7th place on 50 MHz; 10th place on 2m, tied for 4th place on 220 MHz, and also 7th place on both 432 and 1296 MHz. Pretty good job for a station who's antennas are less than 200 feet above sea level!

On 220 MHz KA1ZE scored 3,160 points for second place in the country, while K1FO took first place on 432 MHz with 10,688 points followed by KA1ZE with 5,712 points. These guys really do know how to contest!

N1DPM and KA1KRJ just missed placing first in the section with very fine scores indeed. And WB1HAB with assistance from KA1MEW who has a much better voice also scored well, breaking the five digit barrier. All stations who submitted their logs through the club will receive a special certificate, which will be available at the annual meeting. In addition, we hope to have special awards ready for the top ranking club stations. Make sure to make your reservations for the banquet and awards presentation.

You can find all the results starting on page 75 of the June 1987 issue of QST. It would not be final without a quote from the comments of the published results by K1BE. "I was in an ice-fishing contest during the VHF SS. When my 'tip-up' flag signaled a fish on the line, I'd run out, reel in the fish, then get back to the radio to make a big 'catch' on VHF." Thanks Jeff!

For Sale

Eldico antenna tuner, Barker and Williamson 8040 20 15 & 10 meter coils. Provision for coaxial 300 ohm and open wire line. 300 watt capacity. Combination amperes and watts meter. Comes with manual. Asking \$40.00. Please contact Pat Lamagna, KA1PHI, at 413.782.0452

Field Day de N1FJ

My first Field Day was in 1952. The FCC had just announced a new license category, the Novice class, and my Dad and I were studying for our licenses with the local Crete (Nebraska) Amateur Radio Club. Although we were not licensed, we tagged along on their Field Day effort. It turned out there were lots of things we could do besides operate. We helped set up the antennas and generator, logged contacts, and cooked. It was a lot of fun (see QST, December 1952, page 47).

Since then I've been part of many Field Day operations. Field Day is a great team sport, and while seeing your group effort listed in QST is fun, there is more to it than that. Field Day is an opportunity to practice emergency communications - setting up a station from scratch using alternative power sources and temporary antennas. It can be as challenging as you like; your group can operate from a pup tent, a Winnebago, or someone's backyard.

After this pep talk I'm sure you are relaxing - confident you've spotted a sucker for Field Day Chairman. This year, however, I won't be able to participate in the club Field Day operation, as my family vacation just happens to include Field Day weekend (heh heh). I won't be sitting out Field Day, though - listen for N1FJ/1 operating from Block Island, RI. I hope to hear you all on the air June 27 & 28. All should participate.

Frandy Johnson, N1FJ

Digipeater

Recently work was done on the WINY-1 digipeater to realign the receiver and transmitter. The transmitter audio deviation was reset and equalized. Currently the equipment is in good working order. The borrowed amp runs 42 watts out and the antenna match shows a 1.3:1 VSWR. Future plans and upgrades include the purchase of an amp to increase the power to 100 watts for approximately 350 watts ERP. Possible enhancements to the receiver are being looked at to improve adjacent channel selectivity.

Buy your raffle tickets today!

HCRA ZERO BEAT June 1987

Field Day

This year the HCRA plans to have a real big Field Day effort, thanks to a number of members who have created a significant interest in the project. Stan KA1ZE and Fred N1DPM will be setting up a super station on 40m including a two element beam! If you've never seen a 40m beam, or heard how one performs, here's your chance! Phil KA1MP will be working on 80m, and is looking for interested parties to assist with that band. There's lots of room for both CW and voice ops, so come on down!

A "contest style" station will be setup on 20m, with a mono-band beam. Additional stations will also be available on 10 & 15 meters. Although we have a few people who have already come forward and stated their interest in helping out with one or more of these bands, we're still looking for more people! Not only operators, but those who may want to help build the station and erect the antennas. If you live in an apartment, or the XYL won't let you erect that array you've always wanted, here's your chance! We will supply the parts, you supply the grunt work!

Of course, what would Field Day be without a Novice station. And we plan to have at least one Novice station since this year Novices can yack with their new phone privileges on 10 meters. Of course, we need Novice operators to rack up a few points on 15m CW too. So limber up your fist and give us a hand. Our Novice station will also be equipped with real rigs and beam antennas for that extra added touch. Our Novice team captain is Kevin KA1QAH, who recently received his Novice ticket after a nine week wait! So look for QAH in addition to W1NY on the bands if you can't stop by.

We will also have a Packet station to get the extra 100 bonus points. If you still have not been bitten by the packet bug, stop by and see a packet station on 2m in operation.

Wanted

The WMSN seeks a CW operator with a gud slow fist to learn or teach traffic handling. We meet MTWTF at 7:30PM local time on 3.562 MHz. No experience necessary.

HCRA ZERO BEAT June 1987

FD '87 — Where?

So now that we've got your interest sparked, mark down on your calander Saturday June 27 and Sunday June 28 to stop by and help out with the HCRA W1NY Field Day effort. We are planning to operate on the field next to the Agawam High School, located on Route 57 in Agawam, MA. We will be working with the Agawam Civil Defense organization who will be providing some of our operational facilities and emergency power. Agawam High is where we have held our license classes for the last few years, and is on the way to the HCRA meeting location as you travel west on Route 57 from the south end bridge to Feeding Hills.

If you have a camper or other facilities feel free to bring them along. We will have rest rooms available, and lots of free parking. Many of us will be operating right through the entire Field Day period, and welcome your support.

You are also invited to BYOG and BYOB... That's Bring Your Own Grills and Bring Your Own Beef. We will bring refreshments and ice to keep it cool. Please remember that we can't permit alcohol on the Town property.

If you'd like to set-up a station, offer your support, or have equipment that may be usefull (such as generators, towers, etc), please contact John AC1T or Bob KA1KPH. We have Field Day planning nets each Sunday night on 449.175 MHz, and will link to W1MBT 146.70 at that time with permission of the Provin Mountain gang. So check in or give us a call, and see you at Field Day '87.

Board Members Wanted

We are still looking for a few individuals who would like to participate in the running of our club by being a board member of club officer. There are a number of positions that will become vacant at this annual meeting, and we are looking for a few good hams! Help set the future direction of the club and at the same time have a good time working with great bunch of individuals. Steve Nelson, WA1EYF, is the chair of the nomination committe. Please contact Steve for more information. We also accept nominations from the floor.

Contests

1987

May	30-31	CQ WW WPX CW
Jun	13-15	June VHF contest
	27-28	Field Day
Jul	11-12	IARU HF contest
	18-19	CQ WW WPX VHF
Aug	1-2	UHF contest
Sep	12-14	September VHF contest
	26-27	CQ WW DX RTTY
Nov	7-9	Sweepstakes CW
	21-23	Sweepstakes SSB
Dec	4-6	160m contest
	12-13	10m contest

Please consult *CQ* or *QST* for more information on the above listed contests and events.

Dayton Notes

You may have heard some of these already or were lucky enough to be there in person, but for those of you who missed it.....

The Dayton HamVention® had over 27,000 hams making it a new record in paid attendance. Several of the large equipment dealers reported sales on Friday of over \$100,000 with total sales over the weekend over \$250,000. And who said Ham Radio was not commercial?

There was plenty of new equipment either announced or on display. Some of the more interesting were:

From ICOM the IC-900, a fiber optic multiband FM mobile transceiver for six bands 10m through 1.2 GHz.. The unit is completely remotable from a small controller which can be placed on a visor or windshield, with the individual band units placed in the trunk. Also from ICOM were the IC-375A and IC-275 all-mode 220 MHz and 2m transceivers.

Kenwood had its new FT-23R and FT-73R 2m and 70cm hand-helds on display. In addition, they were showing the new IP-100 Illustphone, which, when used in conjunction with an VHF/UHF FM transceiver, will transmit graphics and pictures to another amateur station similarly equipped. What will they think of next?

Yaesu was showing a new line of 25 watt FM transceivers for 2m, 220 MHz, and 70cm, and 10 watts on 1.2 GHz.

Ten-Tec was exhibiting its new Paragon HF transceiver with a general coverage receiver. Company officials present said the first Paragons would be available in late May

Finally, Heathkit has not forgotten Amateur Radio, and had its new SB-1000 kilowatt amp and HK-232 TNC on display. The HK-232 can decode weather pictures, work VHF packet up to 9.6k baud, plus CW, RTTY, AMTOR and ASCII. Hmmm.....

Next year's HamVention will be on April 29 through May 1. If you're planning on going better make your reservations now! See you there!

Raffle

Here's a raffle you won't want to miss! The HCRA is having a raffle in honor of the new Novice privs, with the Grand Prize being a Kenwood TH-31BT 220 MHz handie talkie. In addition, there will be Second and Third prizes of \$50.00 each in the form of gift certificates at Ham Radio Outlet.

You do not have to be present at the Banquet to win!

Raffle tickets are \$1.00 each or six for \$5.00. Enclosed in this issue of *ZERO BEAT* is a page with six tickets. You may fill these out, and mail with cash or check (made out to the Hampden County Radio Association, Inc.) to our club address: HCRA, Inc., P.O. Box 482, West Springfield, MA 01090-0482. Or you can bring your completed tickets and money to the June annual meeting, where you can see if you are the lucky winner.

Additional tickets will be available at the meeting, and are also available by writing. Good Luck, and see you on 220!

For Sale

New TS-940S with antenna tuner, used only six times immediately available. This includes a MC-60A mic, SP-940 speaker, and VS1 voice module. Call Jack, KA1KRJ, to discuss price at 413.786.1463

Brand new TR-3600A in box with warranty card, asking \$280. Please call Jack, KA1KRJ, at 413.786.1463

Banquet

The HCRA Annual Meeting and June Banquet will be held on Friday June 5th at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church. The doors will open at 6:30 PM with dinner served at 7:00 PM. For those of you who can't join us for dinner the Annual Meeting will start at 8:00 PM.

The June Banquet will again be served Smorgasbord style, and will include: roast beef, imported ham, meatballs, turkey roll, macaroni salad, potato salad, cole slaw, rolls, baked beans, coffee, milk, soda, and desert. We have planned on ordering extra food this year, so bring your appetite.

The price is \$5.00 per person. We included a reservation form in last month's issue of *ZERO BEAT*. We must have your paid reservations by June 1st. No tickets will be sold at the door! For further information or late reservations please call Ron WB1ETS at 413.739.5228

Pro Rally

Your help is again needed by the New England Region of the SCCA for a Pro Rally. The 1987 Coolidge Forest Pro Rally will be held on Saturday, June 20, the weekend before Field Day. Amateur radio operators are needed from 11:00 AM to 11:30 PM.

Ian MacLennan, AF1R, is coordinating the effort again this year. He would appreciate any of you who may be interested in helping, especially those who participated last year, in contacting him. You can reach him at home at 617.449.1227 and at work at 617.455.2462.

Field Day Info

If you are unable to join us for Field Day, please make an effort to participate, either from home, or from another Field Day operation. The MTARA is also planning a Field Day operation locally, so there is plenty of operating positions available!

All the details can be found starting on page 87 of the May 1987 issue of *QST*. We've provided most of the details here, in summary, for your review.

The contest starts at 1800 UTC on Saturday 27-Jun-87 and ends at 2100 UTC on Sunday 28-Jun-87. If you begin your portable station setup prior to 1800 UTC Saturday you may only operate for 24 consecutive hours of the contest period; otherwise the entire 27 hours is OK.

There are five entry categories: A through E. Class A stations are clubs or groups of more than two people operating at a portable location. Class B stations are one or two person portable entries. Class C is the mobile station category. Class D stations operate from home or other permanent locations using commercial power. Class E stations are the same as D but operating with emergency power.

If you are operating from home using commercial power (Class D) you should only contact other stations in classes A, B, C, and E — no points for other class D stations.

The exchange is real simple: the number of transmitters, the class of operation, and the ARRL section. For example, the HCRA club station WINY will most likely operate with the exchange 5 A Western Mass. If KA1KPH operates from home using commercial power he would send 1 D Western Mass. And if NC1B was to operate from home using a generator he'd send 1 E Western Mass. If you work a DX station (not Canada) they'll send RS(T) and their QTH.

If you come down and help out at WINY, or any other Field Day effort, you may not work that station from home for points!

Remember that on each band, the Phone and CW parts count as separate bands! This means that you should work WINY on both phone *and* CW on all HF bands. If you like HF packet, RTTY, or ASCII, these contacts count as CW.

Don't forget the bonus points: 100% emergency power; public relations; message origination; message relay; satellite QSO's; natural power; WIAW message; packet radio; and this year the MARS QSO bonus points. These points can significantly enhance your score, and are an important part of the Field Day event.

Hope to see you on the air!

**Don't forget
Field Day
and the Banquet!**

New FCC Address

Federal Communications Commission
NFPA Building
Batterymarch Park
Quincy MA 02169

Main Office: 617.770.4023
Recording: 617.770.3922
Director: 617.770.4325

Annual June Banquet Friday June 5th

HCRA Meetings

First Friday of each month at
Feeding Hills Congregational Church
Center of Feeding Hills
Intersection of routes 57 & 187
Doors open at 7:30 PM
All hams are welcome to attend!

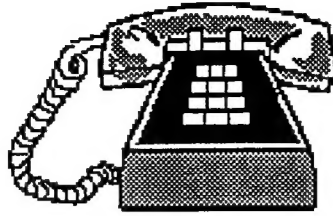
W1NY Places in Unlimited Category
The HCRA breaks all records.....
And K1FO, KA1ZE, N1DPM, and
KA1KRJ join WTBS as super sta-
tions! All this and more in this
month's *ZERO BEAT*!

Hampden County Radio Association, Inc.
P O Box 482
West Springfield MA 01090-0482

Forwarding & Address
Correction Requested

June 1987
ZERO BEAT

Need more information?



Please call...

Yorke Phillips K1BXE 566-3010
Steve Nelson WA1EYF 596-8216
Ned Carpenter NB1R 596-4625

Or write directly to the club!

New FCC Rulebook

The 7th edition of the FCC Rulebook
is now available from the ARRL. Its
only \$5.00 and contains the latest
rules updates. You may want one just
for its color!

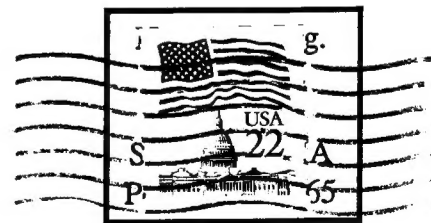
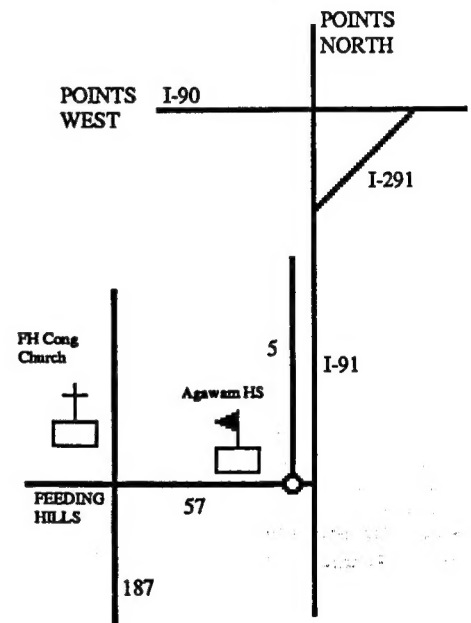
HCRA Repeaters

KA1JJM/R 147.105 mhz
KA1KPH/R 449.175 mhz
W1NY-1 145.010 pkt

HCRA VEC Exams

The Hampden County Radio Association
sponsors ARRL/VEC exams on Saturdays at
the Wilbraham Hampden Regional High
School, Main Street, Wilbraham, MA. Reg-
istration is at 8:30 AM, and exams start at
9:00 AM. The dates scheduled are 13-Jun-87,
12-Sep-87, and 12-Dec-87. For more infor-
mation please contact Yorke Phillips
K1BXE. The HCRA VE team is also avail-
able to conduct one-on-one VE exams for
those individuals who would like this serv-
ice. Please contact Yorke or any of the board
members for more information.

Upgrade Soon!



10/87 AC1T